

<p style="text-align: center;">JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION Sworn Statement to be included in Transcript of Public Hearings</p>
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**Supreme Court/Court of Appeals
(New Candidate)**

Full Name:

Business Address:

Business Telephone:

1. Do you plan to serve your full term if elected?
2. If elected, do you have any plans to return to private practice one day?
3. Have you met the Constitutional requirements for this position regarding age, residence, and years of practice?
4. What is your philosophy regarding *ex parte* communications? Are there circumstances under which you could envision *ex parte* communications being tolerated?
5. What is your philosophy on recusal, especially in situations in which lawyer-legislators, former associates, or law partners are to appear before you?
6. If you disclosed something that had the appearance of bias, but you believed it would not actually prejudice your impartiality, what deference would you give a party that requested your recusal? Would you grant such a motion?
7. What standards have you set for yourself regarding the acceptance of gifts or social hospitality?

8. How would you handle a situation in which you became aware of misconduct of a lawyer or of a fellow judge?
9. Are you affiliated with any political parties, boards or commissions that need to be evaluated?
10. Have you engaged in any fund-raising activities with any political, social, community, or religious organizations?
11. How would you prepare for cases that were before you?
12. What is your philosophy on "judicial activism," and what effect should judges have in setting or promoting public policy?
13. Canon 4 allows a judge to engage in activities to improve the law, legal system, and administration of justice. What activities would you plan to undertake to further this improvement of the legal system?
14. Do you feel that the pressure of serving as a judge would strain personal relationships (i.e. spouse, children, friends, or relatives)? How would you plan to address this?
15. Are you currently serving on any boards or committees? If so, in what capacity are you serving?
16. Please describe your methods of analysis in matters of South Carolina's Constitution and its interpretation by explaining your approach in the following areas. Which area should be given the greatest weight?
 - a) The use and value of historical evidence in practical application of the Constitution:
 - b) The use and value of an agency's interpretation of the Constitution:

- c) The use and value of documents produced contemporaneously to the Constitution, such as the minutes of the convention:
- 17. Is the power of the South Carolina General Assembly plenary in nature unless otherwise limited by some specific Constitutional provision?
- 18. Presuming that the three branches of government have plenary power for their responsibilities, do any other levels of government (i.e. local governments) have plenary authority, or do all grants of authority to other levels of government flow from the state level in our Constitution and statutes?
- 19. Are you involved in any active investments from which you derive additional income that might impair your appearance of impartiality?
- 20. Do you belong to any organizations that discriminate based on race, religion, or gender?
- 21. Have you met the mandatory minimum hours requirement for continuing legal education courses?
- 22. Have you written any scholarly articles?
- 23. What do you feel is the appropriate demeanor for a judge?
- 24. Would the rules that you expressed in your previous answer apply only while you are on the bench or in chambers, or would these rules apply seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day?
- 25. Would there be a role for sternness or anger in meetings with attorneys?

26. How much money have you spent on your campaign? If it is over \$100, has that amount been reported to the House and Senate Ethics Committees?
27. If you are a sitting judge, have you used judicial letterhead or the services of your staff while campaigning for this office?
28. Have you sought or received the pledge of any legislator prior to this date?
29. Have you sought or been offered a conditional pledge of support by any legislator pending the outcome of your screening?
30. Have you asked any third parties to contact members of the General Assembly on your behalf before the final and formal screening report has been released? Are you aware of any friends or colleagues contacting members of the General Assembly on your behalf?
31. Have you contacted any members of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission?
32. Are you familiar with the 48-hour rule, which prohibits a candidate from seeking pledges for 48 hours after the draft report has been submitted?

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ANSWERS TO THE ABOVE QUESTIONS ARE TRUE AND COMPLETE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.

Sworn to before me this ____ day of _____, 2015.

(Signature)

(Print name)

Notary Public for South Carolina

My Commission Expires: _____